

Rim Inspection

Inspect the wheel rims for damage. Rim damage may be sufficient to cause an air leak or knock the wheel out of alignment. Improper wheel alignment can cause vibration and result in an unsafe riding condition.

Make sure the wheel nuts (**Figure 2**) are tightened securely on each wheel. Tighten the wheel nuts in a crossing pattern to 64 N•m (47 ft.-lb.).



BATTERY

Many electrical system troubles can be traced to battery neglect. Inspect and clean the battery at periodic intervals.

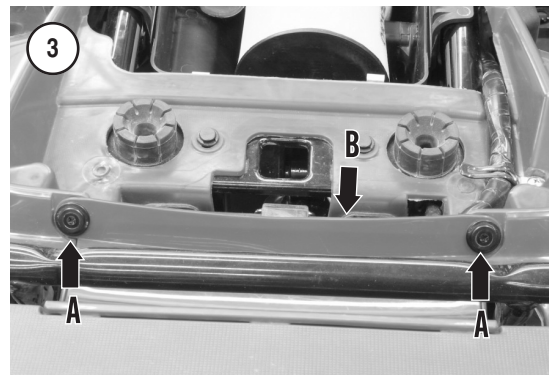
Safety Precautions

When working with batteries, use extreme care to avoid spilling or splashing the electrolyte. This solution contains sulfuric acid, which can ruin clothing and cause serious chemical burns. If the electrolyte is spilled or splashed on clothing or skin, immediately neutralize the affected area with a solution of baking soda and water. Then flush the area with an abundance of clean water. While the TRX350 uses a sealed battery, it vents gasses and electrolyte can leak through cracks in the battery case.

WARNING

Battery electrolyte is extremely harmful when splashed into eyes or onto an open sore. Always wear safety glasses and appropriate work clothes when working with batteries. If the electrolyte gets into someone's eyes, flush them thoroughly with clean water and get prompt medical attention.

When charging a battery, highly explosive hydrogen gas forms in each cell. Some of this gas escapes through filler cap openings and can form an explosive atmosphere in and around the battery. This condition can persist for several hours. Sparks, an open flame or a lighted cigarette can ignite the gas, causing an internal battery explosion and possible serious personal injury.

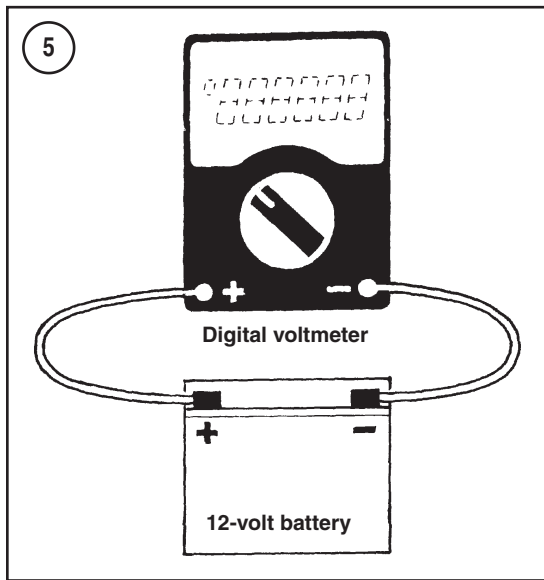
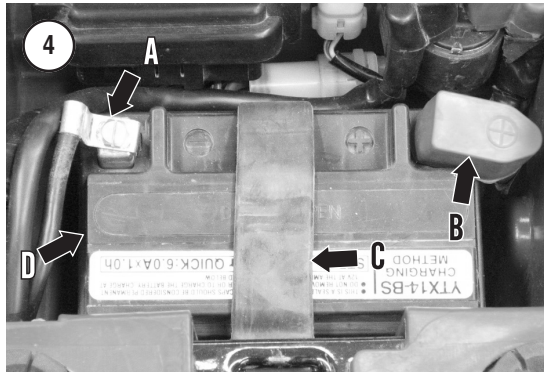


When servicing the battery, note the following precautions to prevent an explosion or personal injury.

1. Do not smoke or permit any open flame near any battery being charged or near a recently charged battery.
2. Do not disconnect live circuits at battery terminals because a spark usually occurs when a live circuit is broken.
3. Take care when connecting or disconnecting any battery charger. Make sure its power switch is off before making or breaking connections. Poor connections are a common cause of electrical arcs that cause explosions.
4. Keep all children and pets away from charging equipment and batteries.
5. Do not try to open the maintenance-free battery.

Removal/Installation

On all models covered in this manual, the negative terminal of the battery is grounded. When removing the battery, disconnect the negative cable first, then the positive cable. This sequence reduces



the chance of a tool shorting to ground when disconnecting the positive cable.

WARNING

When performing the following procedures, protect eyes, skin and clothing. If electrolyte gets into someone's eyes, flush them thoroughly with clean water and get prompt medical attention.

1. Read the information listed in *Safety Precautions* in this section, then continue with Step 2.
2. Make sure the ignition switch is turned off.
3. Remove the seat (Chapter Fifteen).
4. Remove the plastic screws (A, **Figure 3**), then remove the electrical compartment cover (B).
5. Disconnect the negative battery cable (A, **Figure 4**) from the battery.

6. Push back the red terminal cover (B, **Figure 4**), then disconnect the positive battery cable from the battery.
7. Detach the rubber battery strap (C, **Figure 4**), then remove the battery (D).
8. Service the battery as described in this section.
9. Install the battery into the battery box with its terminals facing in the direction shown in **Figure 4**.
10. Attach the battery retaining strap.
11. Coat the battery terminals with a thin layer of dielectric grease. This will help to retard corrosion and decomposition of the terminals.
12. Attach the positive battery cable to the battery, then place the red terminal cover over the positive terminal (B, **Figure 4**).
13. Attach the negative battery cable (A, **Figure 4**) to the battery.
14. Install the cover (B, **Figure 3**) and plastic screws (A).
15. Install the seat (Chapter Fifteen).

Inspection

For a preliminary test, connect a digital voltmeter to the battery negative and positive terminals (**Figure 5**) and measure battery voltage. A fully charged battery will read between 13.0-13.2 volts. If the voltmeter reads 12.3 volts or less, the battery is under charged. If necessary, charge the battery as described in this chapter.

A bench type battery tester can be used to accurately test the maintenance-free battery. When using a battery tester, follow the manufacturer's instructions and test results. For best results, make sure the tester's cables are in working order and clamp tightly onto the battery terminals.

NOTE

A battery tester suitable for testing motorcycle batteries can be ordered through a dealership from K&L Supply Co. in Santa Clara, California.

Charging

Always follow the manufacturer's instructions when using a battery charger.

CAUTION

Never connect a battery charger to the battery with the battery leads still

connected. Always remove the battery from the vehicle before charging it.

1. Remove the battery as described in this chapter.
2. Connect the positive charger lead to the positive battery terminal and the negative charger lead to the negative battery terminal.

CAUTION

Do not exceed the recommended charging amperage rate or charging time on the label attached to the battery (Figure 6).

CAUTION

Do not charge the battery with a high rate charger. The high current forced into the battery will overheat the battery and damage the battery plates.

3. Set the charger to 12 volts. If the charger output is variable, select a low setting. Use the following charging amperage and length of charging time:
 - a. Standard charge: 1.4 amps at 5 to 10 hours.
 - b. Quick charge: 6.0 amps at 1 hour.
4. Turn the charger on.
5. After charging the battery at the rate specified on the battery, turn off the charger and disconnect the charger leads.
6. Connect a digital voltmeter to the battery terminals (**Figure 5**) and measure battery voltage. A fully charged battery will read 13.0-13.2 volts.
7. If the battery voltage remains stable for one hour, the battery is charged.
8. Clean the battery cable connectors, battery terminals and case. Coat the terminals with a thin layer of dielectric grease. This will help to retard corrosion and decomposition of the battery terminals.
9. Reinstall the battery as described in this chapter.

Cables

To ensure good electrical contact between the battery and the electrical cables, keep the cables clean and free of corrosion.

1. If the electrical cable terminals are badly corroded, disconnect them from the battery as described in *Removal/Installation* in this section.
2. Thoroughly clean each connector with a wire brush and then with a water and baking soda solution. Wipe dry with a clean cloth.



3. After cleaning, apply a thin layer of dielectric grease to the battery terminals before reattaching the cables.
4. If disconnected, reconnect the battery cables as described in *Removal/Installation* in this section.
5. Coat the terminals with a thin layer of dielectric grease. This will help to retard corrosion and decomposition of the battery terminals.

Replacement

Always replace the sealed maintenance-free battery with another maintenance-free battery. The charging system is designed to operate with this type of battery in the system.

Before installing a new battery, make sure it is fully charged. Failure to do so will prevent the battery from ever obtaining a complete charge.

NOTE

*Because a maintenance-free battery requires a higher voltage charging system, do not replace a maintenance-free battery with a standard battery. Always replace the battery with the correct type and designated capacity. Refer to the battery capacity specifications in **Table 4** when purchasing a new battery.*

NOTE

Recycle the old battery. The lead plates and the plastic case can be recycled. Most motorcycle dealerships will accept an old battery in trade after the purchase of a new one.

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